GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4329
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016
Delay/Cancellation of Flights of Air India
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking any steps to curtail the delayed departure and improve on time efficiency of the Air India as a large number of air travellers are being affected due to delay or cancellation of flights, if so, the details thereof;

(b) The steps the Government proposes to take to review the guidelines of Directorate General of Civil Aviation in case of delay of flight, the cabin crew refuses to accompany the flight due to expiry of their working hours, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to review the security guidelines in case of flight diverted enroute due to bad weather; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to improve the efficiency of Air India

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): The Following measures have been taken to improve the punctuality/on time performance:

(i) Initiatives have been taken to increase the availability of resources in terms of crew and aircraft there by improving the on time performance. Extra efforts are made to ensure passenger connection.

(ii) To ensure better on time performance, a meeting is conducted by Air India every day wherein Heads of Verticals as well as regional Heads discuss the previous day operation and take corrective steps based on the review.

(iii) Block times of flights have been revised to factor in congestion at airports and airspace, so that en-route delays are minimized.

(iv) Regular meetings are held with other stake holders like ground handlers and airports operator to minimize delays.

(b): DGCA has issued Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) Section-7 Series-I, Part-I which specify the requirements of Flight Duty and Flight Time Limitation (FDTL) for cabin crew. The existing CAR has been reviewed and revised CAR Section-7, Series-J, Part-I, Issue-III is effective from 1st Sept., 2016. Para 8.3 of revised CAR lays down the provision for extension of FDTL of cabin crew under unforeseen operational circumstances.

(c): The security system at airports in India is reviewed from time to time and upgraded as per requirements with involvement of all security agencies and stakeholders, depending upon threat perceptions.Some of the steps taken to strengthen security arrangements include time bound deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at major airports, deployment of Quick Reaction Teams(QRTs) at major airports and regular monitoring of security arrangements through inspections and dummy checks.

(d): Details provided in part (a) & (b) above.